

# Department of Curriculum and Instruction

## Faculty Profile and Curriculum Vitae



**Dr. Bessie P. Dernikos**

Assistant Professor

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[Curriculum Vitae](#)

Boca Raton Campus

### **Credentials:**

Ed.D. Teachers College, Columbia University, Curriculum & Teaching with specialization in Literacy Education

M.A. Teachers College, Columbia University, Reading

A.M. Brown University, Literatures and Cultures in English

A.B. Brown University, Literatures and Cultures in English

### **Biography**

Dr. Bessie P. Dernikos, Assistant Professor, joined the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in Florida Atlantic University's College of Education in August 2015. She teaches courses in reading and language arts. Dr. Dernikos brings her experience and expertise in literacy education to the Department of Teaching and Learning. She has previously developed curricula and syllabi to introduce pre- and in-service teachers to educational theory, reading and writing development, practitioner research, curriculum design and assessment-based literacy instruction.

Dr. Dernikos has authored articles for peer-reviewed journals, including the *Journal of Early Childhood Research*, and presented at national conferences. Her research interests connect to two interrelated projects: examining the literacy processes of young children in urban contexts, with a focus on the material, discursive and affective forces that impact language and literacy learning; and rethinking normative literacy practices in order to foster cultural, linguistic and gender diversity. A founder of an educational company, Dr. Dernikos specialized in tutoring and multisensory intervention services to K-12th grade students, as well as literacy coaching and professional development services to public and private schools. She also taught in language schools in Greece.